

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**

HEADQUARTERS, COMBAT READINESS TRAINING CENTER SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Savannah's Combat Readiness Training Center To Host Giant Exercise 'SENTRY SAVANNAH 14'

The skies over Savannah, South Georgia and the Atlantic Basin will be filled in February with all types of military fighter, reconnaissance and cargo aircraft as Savannah's Combat Readiness Training Center (CRTC) hosts 'SENTRY SAVANNAH 14', the largest Air National Guard (ANG) exercise of its kind.

More than 1000 airmen from units across the nation will deploy to Savannah during the month of February to fight air battles off the coast of Savannah and perform bombing and strafing runs at the unit's Townsend Bombing Range (Townsend GA). The air battles will be conducted during typical business hours with no engagements taking place after dark.



Overhead, Savannahians can expect to see America's fully operational Fifth Generation fighter, the F-22 Raptors from bases in FL and HI. Joining the fight will be Beaufort MCAS' F-18 Super Hornets, ANG F-16 Falcons and F-15 Strike Eagles from SC, VT, FL. The 116<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing JSTARS from Warner Robins AFB will provide air reconnaissance for the operation along with dozens of other moving parts for the month long exercise. Savannahian's can also expect to see many of these airmen in the shops and restaurants of our community when flying ceases for the day.

The CRTC, an element of the Georgia Air National Guard, is Savannah's year-round, unique military air and cyber communications training facility, serving war-fighters from all branches of military service. It is the only training facility of its kind capable of supporting the F-22 Raptor and the next follow-on Fifth Generation fighter, the F-35 Lightning II. The unit is headquartered at Savannah-Hilton Head International Airport, with additional training facilities located at the Townsend Bombing Range, Townsend, GA.